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May 23, 2025

Clerk of Court
Richland County Court of Common Pleas
Attn: Office of the Master in Equity
1701 Main St.
Columbia, SC 29201

RECEIVED

JUN 04 2025

SC Court of Appeals

RICHLAND COUNTY
FILED
2025 MAY 23 PM 1:34
JEANETTE W. McBRIDE
C.C.P., G.S., & F.C.

RE: Refusal to Consent to Unconstitutional Proceedings and Demand to Cease Unlawful Collection Activities

Case Number: 2023-CP-40-03343

To Whom It May Concern:

I, **Sherman Smith**, am the living man and real party in interest in the above-captioned matter. I am writing to formally **refuse to be the financial surety or charitable donor** to any unlawful or constitutionally defective proceedings under the color of law or commerce, including those orchestrated by the Master in Equity in this matter.

1. Lack of Subject Matter Jurisdiction

The record clearly reflects that **subject matter jurisdiction has been challenged repeatedly and has not been lawfully proven or satisfied**. No court can proceed without first establishing competent jurisdiction. Per Supreme Court precedent:

"Once jurisdiction is challenged, it must be proven to exist as a matter of law and on the record."
— *Steel Co. v. Citizens for a Better Environment*, 523 U.S. 83 (1998)

The failure of the court to respond lawfully to jurisdictional challenges constitutes a violation of **due process rights under the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments** and is evidence of **judicial misconduct** or a proceeding conducted in **bad faith**.

2. Refusal to Consent to Unlawful Proceedings

This letter serves as **formal notice** that I **do not consent to administrative or commercial proceedings masquerading as judicial foreclosure** without full transparency, verified claims,

original contracts, and jurisdiction. I reject the presumption that I am a debtor or that I have volunteered to be the **charitable surety** for unlawful enrichment of third parties.

3. Demand for Financial and Jurisdictional Cease and Desist

I demand that:


- **No funds, bonds, penalties, or disbursements** be issued or collected under this case from any public or private account associated with my name or estate;
- The court cease all actions against me in the absence of lawful, proven jurisdiction;
- No further commercial or judicial actions be taken unless and until jurisdiction is established and verified under constitutional standards.

This notice places the court on **full legal and commercial notice** that **any future attempts to extract funds or enforce unlawful judgments** will be considered acts of **fraud, coercion, and bad faith**, subject to claims of **injury, appeal, and possible federal redress**.

NOTICE TO PRINCIPAL IS NOTICE TO AGENT. NOTICE TO AGENT IS NOTICE TO PRINCIPAL.

Without prejudice,
All Rights Reserved, UCC 1-308

Signature:



Sherman Smith

